

CLAIMS

We claim:

1. A method of agitating poultry within an enclosed area, comprising:

- (a) operating a plurality of robots on a periodic schedule of activation within said enclosed area,
- (b) inducing movement of said poultry due to the stimuli presented by the motion and proximity of said plurality of robots within said enclosed area,

Whereby said poultry is induced to feed according to the said periodic schedule of activation of said plurality of robots thereby increasing said poultry's growth-to-feed-consumed ratio.

2. A system for agitating poultry within an enclosed area, comprising:

- (a) a plurality of robots
- (b) said robot within said plurality of robots, comprising:
 - sensing means on said robot, for detecting proximity to objects;
 - locomotion means on said robot, to cause said robot to move;
 - computational means on said robot, to accept input signals from the sensing means, interpret said signals as distance, and provide speed and steering commands to the locomotion means based on said signals accepted, thereby guiding said robot about the inner perimeter of said enclosed area;
 - activation means on said robot, to activate said robot according to said periodic schedule of activation;

Patent Application of Brace Beemer Daniel, David Arturo Salazar, and Robert Sinclair Daniel III for "Agitation of Poultry by Applied Robotics" continued - Page 19

power means on said robot supporting said sensing means, said locomotion means, said computational means, and said activation means; and casing means to protect said robot's internally mounting components from the environment of said enclosed area.

3. A system according to claim 2, wherein a radio transmitting device provides signals for detection by said sensing means.